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Mud Lake Complex Update

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Thu, May 28, 2015 at 11:15 AM

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Mud Lake Complex
Southern Area Gold Team
Thursday, May 28, 2015 10:00 AM
Fire Information Office, 239-695-0881
Mudlakecomplex@gmail.com

Fire Information Office
Hours of Operation: 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

[InciWeb](#)
[Mud Lake Complex Map](#)



Current Status The Mud Lake Complex is comprised of several fires caused by lightning strikes in Big Cypress National Preserve located in Southwest Florida, near Naples. The fires have burned 35,321 acres of various Preserve habitats which include: dense, coarse grass; pine timber; and cypress domes. Containment is currently 51%. Heat was still present on the north as well as east sections of the Square Fire yesterday, but the rest of the fire appeared to be cooling down. Crews continue to do mop up hot spots and patrol the Ellison Fire and the Nobles Fire.

Planned Events Wildland firefighter crews will continue to monitor existing containment lines, mop-up fire perimeters, and improve containment lines. Rehabilitation efforts will continue on areas along the Ellison and Square Fire perimeters. With reburn potential due to needlecast, smoke may be more visible today. Additionally, crews will continue to patrol, monitor and mop up hot spots using low impact fire suppression tactics to lessen impacts to threatened and endangered species, such as the Florida panther, Florida bonneted bat and red-cockaded woodpecker.

Fire	Estimated acreage as of May 28, 2015	Start Date
Ellison	23,709	May 8
Ellipse	215	May 10
Square	11,375	May 10
Pekel	1.5	May 17
68	2.5	May 18
Blue Bird	0.5	May 21
Sanctuary	1.5	May 22

Hobo	5	May 24
Buggy	5	May 24
Nobles	6	May 24
Personnel	335	
Equipment	6 helicopters (1 large, 3 medium, 2 small), 7 wildland fire engines, 2 fixed-wing aircraft	
Cooperators	National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Florida Panther National Wildlife Refuge, Florida Forest Service, Seminole Tribe of Florida, Florida Highway Patrol, Collier County (Florida) Office of Emergency Management	
Restrictions and Closures	A temporary flight restriction (TFR) is in effect. (http://tfr.faa.gov/save_pages/detail_5_6469.html) Access to lands managed by Big Cypress National Preserve south of Interstate 75, from mile marker 59 to mile marker 75 (Turner River Road), south to Upper Wagon Wheel Road is temporarily restricted as well. The closure also extends to lands administered by Big Cypress National Preserve north of Interstate 75, from mile marker 59 to mile marker 70, north to the Big Cypress Preserve Boundary. These areas will be closed to provide public and firefighter safety in areas of high fire activity. The closure restricts access to all recreational use including Off-Road Vehicles (ORV), hiking, and camping and includes portions of the Florida National Scenic Trail from mile 12, traveling north to the northern boundary of Big Cypress National Preserve.	
Fire Weather	Drying trends continue for the 5th consecutive day without any measurable rain across the complex. Easterly winds will persist through midweek with low rain chances today. Predicted 10-15 mph winds with higher gusts nearing 20 mph in the afternoon are forecast. Hot temperatures during the afternoon will continue with relative humidity low at 38%.	

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Big Cypress National Preserve - Mud Lake Complex Public Information Office | 33100 Tamiami Trail East | Ochopee | FL | 34141